

Novak Druce & Quigg LLP

facsimile transmittal

To: **Examiner Krause**

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From: **Michael Garrabrants**

Date: **9/23/2009**

Re: **10/815,130**

Pages: **2 (including coversheet)**

Cc: **[Name]**

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Please see attached sheets

confidential

Dear Examiner Krause:

Thank you for your proposed claim amendment. It does address your interpretation about the inner surface "having a hold formed there through" potentially still reading simply on the inner surface of the liner journal, with the second end hole. However, the claim doesn't leave adequate scope regarding certain embodiments. In particular, defining the surfaces as cylindrical and planar are too narrowing over the prior art, and exclude situations where there may be some tapering in a journal formed by such a liner, or something other than a completely flat liner bottom.

Would you consider a claim as proposed below? I believe that it addresses your concern, while not being unduly restrictive.

Thank you,
Mike Garabrants

Current claim 1:

1. (Previously presented) A fluid dynamic bearing motor comprising:

- a base having a bore hole;
- a liner secured within the bore hole, wherein the liner includes a first end, and a second end, wherein the second end includes an inner surface having a hole formed there through;
- a rotor assembly having a shaft partially disposed within the liner, the shaft configured to rotate on the surface of the second end of the liner and relative to the liner;
- a fluid dynamic bearing disposed between the liner and shaft; and
- a recirculation channel disposed outside of the liner, the recirculation channel for recirculating lubricating fluid during relative rotation of the shaft and the liner.

Proposed Amended claim 1:

1. (Currently Amended) A fluid dynamic bearing motor comprising:

- a base having a bore hole;
- a liner secured within the bore hole, wherein the liner defines a journal including~~includes~~ a first end opening, and a second end distal the first end opening, the second end comprising a transverse surface ~~wherein the second end includes an inner surface~~ having a hole formed there through;
- a rotor assembly having a shaft partially disposed within the liner, the shaft configured to rotate on the transverse surface of the second end of the liner and relative to the liner;
- a fluid dynamic bearing disposed between the liner and shaft; and
- a recirculation channel disposed outside of the liner, the recirculation channel for recirculating lubricating fluid during relative rotation of the shaft and the liner.